

## ABSTRACT

The present invention is directed to provide an illumination apparatus for an optical instrument which is small in size, has great durability, and can be easily manufactured. The illumination apparatus for an optical instrument is characterized by comprising an illumination means outputting illumination light and an optical element which is positioned on the optical axis of the illumination light outputted from the illumination means and which is made of organic/inorganic composite material containing a component having a glass-transition temperature higher than 150°C as its organic component.